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Substantive session of 1999
Geneva, 5–30 July 1999
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the substantive session of 1999 in section I and the annotations to the provisional agenda in section II.

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I. Provisional agenda

The provisional agenda for the substantive session of 1999 of the Council has been drawn up on the basis of the list of items approved by the Council at its organizational session for 1999 (decision 1999/201).

Provisional agenda for the substantive session of 1999

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

High-level segment

2. The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women.

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

3. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:
   (a) Poverty eradication and capacity-building;
   (b) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly;
   (c) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme;
   (d) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

Coordination segment

4. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following theme: Development of Africa: implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development.

Humanitarian affairs segment

5. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.

General segment

6. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.
7. Coordination, programme and other questions:
   (a) Reports of coordination bodies;
   (b) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001;
   (c) Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS);
   (d) International cooperation in the field of informatics;
   (e) Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields.

8. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B.

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

10. Regional cooperation.

11. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.

12. Non-governmental organizations.

13. Economic and environmental questions:

    (a) Sustainable development;

    (b) Science and technology for development;

    (c) Statistics;

    (d) Human settlements;

    (e) Environment;

    (f) Women in development;

    (g) Transport of dangerous goods;

    (h) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;

    (i) Population and development;

    (j) International cooperation in tax matters;

    (k) Energy and natural resources for development.

14. Social and human rights questions:

    (a) Advancement of women;

    (b) Social development;

    (c) Crime prevention and criminal justice;

    (d) Narcotic drugs;

    (e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

    (f) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

    (g) Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

    (h) Human rights.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

At its organizational session for 1999, the Council approved the provisional agenda for its substantive session (decision 1999/201).

In accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council (E/5715/Rev.2), should any proposals be submitted for the inclusion of supplementary items in the agenda, they will be circulated as soon as they are received, and a supplementary list of items will be issued as an addendum to the provisional agenda.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, the Council will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on proposed themes for the high-level and coordination segments of the substantive session of 2000 of the Council.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on proposed themes for the high-level and coordination segments of the substantive session of 2000 of the Council.

A. High-level segment

2. The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women

At its substantive session of 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided that the high-level segment of the substantive session of 1999 of the Council would be devoted to the consideration of the following theme: "The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women" (decision 1998/298).

By selecting this theme, the Council has met the request made by the General Assembly and the Fourth World Conference on Women that the Council devote one high-level segment to the advancement of women and the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (General Assembly resolution 52/100).

The theme is also highly relevant to the one-day policy dialogue with the heads of financial and trade institutions, and should therefore be a main focus of that dialogue in 1999.

The Council will have before it, at its high-level segment, the report of the Secretary-General on the subject.

The Council will also have before it the *World Economic and Social Survey, 1999*, prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 118 (II) and 52/180 and Council resolution 1983/50. Part one of the *Survey* assesses the current global economic situation, including a forecast of output, international trade and other key economic variables in 1999 in the main regions of the world. In part two, the *Survey* examines aspects of financing for development. Drawing on the experiences of developed, developing and transition economies, and in the light of the increase in international financial activities, it considers questions of the effectiveness, equity and stability of different institutions and market arrangements for financial intermediation, including issues of management, the roles of the public and private sectors, and public oversight. The *Survey* also includes an extensive statistical annex of economic, trade and financial indicators.

The Council will have before it for information the executive summary of the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development*.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

World Economic and Social Survey, 1999

Executive summary of the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development*

B. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

3. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

(a) Poverty eradication and capacity-building

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/192, paragraph 62, and Council decision 1998/299, the Council will consider the issue of poverty eradication and capacity-building at the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment.

Documentation

Addendum to the report of the Secretary-General listed under item 3 (b) below

(b) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly

In accordance with Assembly resolution 53/192, paragraph 61, the Council will examine the operational activities for development of the United Nations system in order to evaluate the implementation of the triennial policy review of those activities, with a view to ensuring its full implementation.

In paragraph 60 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, after consultation with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to present a progress report to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 on an appropriate management process, containing clear guidelines, targets, benchmarks and time-frames for the full implementation of the resolution.

In paragraph 63 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report annually to the Council on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework.

In accordance with paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 50/227, paragraph 16 of its resolution 53/192 and paragraph 3 of Council resolution 1998/27, the Council will also consider the overall financial picture of the United Nations funds and programmes, including the availability of resources, the priorities and programmes agreed upon in the funds and programmes and the adopted targets, and will provide further guidance on priorities and make recommendations thereon to the Assembly and to the funds and programmes.

By its resolution 1998/27, paragraph 4, the Council invited the Secretary-General to arrange for the submission by the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes, in consultation with the United Nations Development Group, to the Council at its annual substantive session, of a concise consolidated list of issues that were central to the improved coordination of operational activities and on which the funds and programmes sought

consideration by and guidance from the Council, particularly in regard to the triennial policy review, and to include in the list recommendations whenever possible.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General and addenda thereto

(c) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/ United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

In its resolution 48/162, annex I, paragraph 29, the Assembly decided, in order to ensure an effective and efficient interaction between the Assembly, the Council and the individual Executive Boards, that each Board would submit an annual report on its programmes and activities to the Council at its substantive session. In its resolution 1994/33, the Council requested the United Nations funds and programmes, through their Executive Boards, to include in their annual reports to the Council (a) a section outlining measures taken in the implementation of the provisions of the triennial policy review of operational activities and (b) a section on the activities and measures undertaken within the designated theme for the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment.

At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly invited the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to ensure that the heads of the funds and programmes included in their annual reports to the Council a thorough analysis of problems encountered and lessons learned, with emphasis on issues arising from the implementation of the Secretary-General's reform programme, the triennial policy review and the follow-up to international conferences, so as to allow the Council to fulfil its coordinating role (resolution 53/192, para. 59).

The Council will also have before it information from the Executive Director of the World Food Programme regarding proposed amendments to the General Regulations of the Programme.

Documentation

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund on its first regular session, its second regular session and its annual session

Annual reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its first regular session and its annual session

Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund

Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on the outcome of its 1998 sessions

Annual report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme

(d) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries is entrusted with the overall intergovernmental review of technical cooperation among developing countries within the United Nations system. It reports to the General

Assembly through the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic and Social Council in accordance with the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (General Assembly resolution 33/134). The Council will have before it the report of the Committee on its eleventh session (Headquarters, 7–11 June 1999).

Documentation

Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its eleventh session (A/54/39, Supplement No. 39)

C. Coordination segment

4. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following theme: Development of Africa: implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development

In accordance with Council decision 1998/298, the coordination segment will be devoted to the consideration of the following cross-sectoral theme: "Development of Africa: implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development".

The Council will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the subject.

Furthermore, at its substantive session of 1998, the Council decided to undertake substantive discussions on the implementation of the relevant recommendations of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871–S/1998/318) at its substantive session of 1999, taking into account views expressed by Governments during the discussion of the report of the Secretary-General at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly (decision 1998/283).

In its resolution 53/92, the Assembly supported the recommendation to harmonize current international and bilateral initiatives on Africa contained in the report of the Secretary-General, and invited African countries and their partners during the coordination segment of the 1999 substantive session of the Council to identify and rank priorities in partnership, to define respective responsibilities and to agree on realistic and measurable targets in priority areas.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the theme of the coordination segment

D. Humanitarian affairs segment

5. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

At its organizational session for 1999, the Economic and Social Council decided that the theme of the humanitarian affairs segment should be "*International cooperation and coordinated responses to the humanitarian emergencies, in particular, in the transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development*" (decision 1999/208).

At its forty-sixth session, the Assembly requested the Emergency Relief Coordinator to prepare an annual report for the Secretary-General on the *coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations*, including information on the central emergency revolving fund, to be submitted to the Assembly through the Council (resolution 46/182, annex, para. 35 (I)).

At its fifty-third session, the Assembly welcomed the first humanitarian affairs segment of the Council, held during its substantive session of 1998 and agreed conclusions 1998/1, adopted at that session (see A/53/3, chap. VII), and requested the Secretary-General to report to it, through the 1999 substantive session of the Council, on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to Council agreed conclusions 1998/1. It also invited the Council to consider ways to enhance further the humanitarian affairs segment of future sessions of the Council, as outlined in agreed conclusions 1998/1 (resolution 53/88).

The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to report to it, through the Council at the humanitarian affairs segment of its 1999 substantive session, on the collaborative effort between the Secretary-General, the international financial institutions and bodies and agencies of the United Nations system and on the *progress made with the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of Antigua and Barbuda, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Saint Kitts and Nevis* (resolution 53/1 B) and on the *progress made with the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama* (resolution 53/1 C).

Also at its fifty-third session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fourth session, through the Council at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session, on the progress made with regard to *economic assistance to Djibouti* and the implementation of the resolution (resolution 53/1 J).

In accordance with Council resolution 1983/46, the Secretary-General apprises the Council annually on the status of the *assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda*.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to Council agreed conclusions 1998/1

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of Antigua and Barbuda, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Saint Kitts and Nevis

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made with the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama

Report of the Secretary-General on economic assistance to Djibouti

E. General segment

6. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/264, the Council will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1998 coordination segment of the Council on coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

At its substantive session of 1997, the Council requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with organizations of the United Nations system, to submit to it an annual report on the progress achieved by the United Nations system at the intergovernmental, inter-agency and country levels, with specific recommendations on ways to enhance the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits (resolution 1997/61). In its resolution 1998/44 on the same topic, the Council invited the Secretary-General to prepare a progress report on the implementation of the resolution for consideration by the Council in 1999. In the same resolution, the Council agreed to consider conducting in 2000, as a possible contribution to the Millennium Assembly, a review by the Council of progress made within the United Nations system in the promotion of integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its substantive session of 1999 a report on possible modalities of such a review.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1998 substantive session of the Council on coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Report of the Secretary-General on ways to enhance the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits and on the implementation of Council resolution 1998/44

Report of the Secretary-General on possible modalities of a review by the Council in 2000 of progress made within the United Nations system on coordinated conference follow-up

7. Coordination, programme and other questions

(a) Reports of coordination bodies

The Administrative Committee on Coordination will submit an annual overview report to the Council (Council resolution 13 (III)), which will provide the Council with a summary of the work carried out by the Administrative Committee on Coordination machinery in 1998.

The report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-ninth session (Headquarters, June–July 1999) will include the Committee's views on its consideration of the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

Documentation

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-ninth session (A/54/16)

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1998

(b) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

In accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council, the Secretary-General will circulate the sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 covering activities in the economic, social and human rights fields. The Council will consider the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget in the light of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the matter, with a view to submitting its own recommendations thereon to the General Assembly (Council resolution 1988/77).

Documentation

Relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-ninth session (A/54/16)

(c) Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

At its substantive session of 1997, the Council requested co-sponsoring organizations and the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) to disseminate clear guidance to country-level staff on the role and functions of the United Nations theme groups on HIV/AIDS and their respective roles in providing technical assistance, and to report back to their respective governing bodies and to the Programme Coordinating Board on measures undertaken in this respect; requested the United Nations funds and programmes and invited the specialized agencies to ensure effective coordination of HIV/AIDS-related activities in the context of the resident coordinator system; and requested the Secretary-General to transmit to the Council, at its substantive session of 1999, a comprehensive report prepared by the Executive Director of the Programme in collaboration with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system (resolution 1997/52).

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

(d) International cooperation in the field of informatics

At its substantive session of 1998, the Council requested the President of the Council to convene the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics for one more year for the due fulfilment of the provisions of the Council resolutions on the item and for facilitating the successful implementation of the initiatives being taken by the Secretary-General with regard to use of information technology, and also requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its substantive session of 1999 on the follow-up action taken on the resolution, including the findings of the Working Group (resolution 1998/29).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(e) Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields

The Council will be required to approve its calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2000 and 2001 (Council decision 52 (LVII)).

At its fifty-first session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report, through the Committee on Conferences, to each subsidiary organ of the Assembly and the Council on the cost of the conference services it utilized in the year concluded in order to enable those organs to plan more effectively (Assembly resolution 51/211 C).

Documentation

Draft calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2000 and 2001

Report of the Secretary-General on the utilization of conference services by the Economic and Social Council

8. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B

At its substantive session of 1998, the Council decided to continue its deliberations on pending issues pursuant to the mandates given to it, as contained in General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B (resolution 1998/46).

At its organizational session for 1999, the Council looked forward to the annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the further implementation of Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B and Council resolution 1998/46, to be submitted to it at its substantive session of 1999 (resolution 1999/1).

In accordance with Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, and Council resolutions 1998/46, annex II, and 1999/1, the Council will also have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the work of, and examining the linkages between, the functional commissions.

In resolution 1999/1, the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare a progress report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions at all levels. The joint United Nations/Bretton Woods institutions meeting will be held at Headquarters on 29 April 1999.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of, and examining the linkages between, the functional commissions

Report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Assistance to the Palestinian people. At its sixty-third session, in 1977, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit to it annual reports on the question of assistance to the Palestinian people (resolution 2100 (LXIII)).

At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to it at its fifty-fourth session, through the Council, on the implementation of Assembly resolution 53/89 on the subject.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. At its substantive session of 1998, the Council requested its President to continue to maintain close contact with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and to report thereon to the Council; it requested the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the resolution and to report thereon to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 (resolution 1998/38). At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly requested the Council to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the Assembly (resolution 53/62).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people

Report of the President of the Council on consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

10. Regional cooperation

The Council will consider the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation and take the necessary action on the decisions and recommendations of the regional commissions contained therein.

The Council will also have before it the *summaries of the surveys of regional economic and social conditions* prepared by the regional commissions, highlighting the main problems and prospects of those regions. At its first regular session of 1979, the Council decided to discontinue the submission to it of the reports of the regional commissions (decision 1979/1). The reports are transmitted directly to all Member States. The Secretary-General, in his *annual report on regional cooperation*, in addition to reporting on the meetings of the executive secretaries, highlights developments within each region and draws the Council's attention to specific issues requiring its consideration. The report of the Secretary-General will bring to the Council's attention any decisions or recommendations of the regional commissions that statutorily require approval by the Council. A section of the report will deal with the question of *economic and social issues arising out of the Asian economic crisis: a regional perspective* (Council decision 1999/203).

At its substantive session of 1997, the Council requested the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe to continue to take an active part in the follow-up to the project on a *Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar* and to report to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 (resolution 1997/48).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation

Summary of the economic survey of Europe, 1998

Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1998

Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Asia and the Pacific, 1999

Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1998

Summary of economic and social developments in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, 1998

Note by the Secretary-General on a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar

11. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

At its substantive session of 1998, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the resolution and to continue to include, in the report of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories, an update on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies (resolution 1998/32). The attention of the Council is drawn to Assembly resolution 53/196 on the subject.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

12. Non-governmental organizations

Pursuant to its resolutions 3 (II) and 1996/31, the Council will consider the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the work of its resumed 1998 and 1999 sessions (New York, 14–18 December 1998 and 1–18 June 1999) and take action on the recommendations contained therein. The provisional agenda of the 1999 session of the Committee was approved by the Council in its decision 1999/205. At its substantive session of 1995, the Council decided that the Committee should meet annually (decision 1995/304).

Documentation

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its resumed 1998 session

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 1999 session

13. Economic and environmental questions

At its organizational session for 1999, the Council requested those functional commissions that had not yet done so to implement General Assembly resolution 50/227 with regard to the provision of summaries of their resolutions or decisions for action by and/or for the attention of the Council. It also welcomed recommendations 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of section 1, recommendation 1 of section 2, and the recommendations contained in sections 3 to 9 of the consolidated report on the outcomes of the functional commissions of the Council in 1998 (E/1999/3), decided to transmit to the appropriate functional commissions those recommendations for their implementation, and requested the commissions to report to it at its substantive session of 1999 on the follow-up actions taken (resolution 1999/1).

(a) Sustainable development

The Council will have before it the report of the *Commission on Sustainable Development* on its seventh session (New York, 19–30 April 1999). The provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 1998/217.

At its substantive session of 1998, the Council renamed the Committee for Development Planning *Committee for Development Policy* (resolution 1998/46). At its organizational session for 1999, the Council stressed the crucial importance of the completion of the work of that Committee on the vulnerability index and requested the Committee to continue, and make all possible efforts to complete, its work in this regard during its forthcoming session (New York, 26–30 April 1999) and to report to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 (resolution 1999/2).

At its fifty-third session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it for its consideration at future sessions, through the Council in view of its coordination function, an analytical report on the measures taken within the United Nations system to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, including identification of constraints and recommendations on how to address those constraints (resolution 53/188).

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its seventh session (E/1999/29, Supplement No. 9)

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its first session (E/1999/33, Supplement No. 13)

Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken within the United Nations system to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

(b) Science and technology for development

The Council will have before it the report of the *Commission on Science and Technology for Development* on the work of its fourth session (Geneva, 17–21 May 1999). The provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Commission was approved by the Council in decision 1997/306.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its fourth session (E/1999/31, Supplement No. 11)

(c) Statistics

The Council will consider the report of the *Statistical Commission* on its thirtieth session (New York, 1–5 March 1999) and take action on the recommendations contained therein. The provisional agenda and documentation for the thirtieth session of the Commission were approved by the Council in its decision 1997/219.

Documentation

Report of the Statistical Commission on its thirtieth session (E/1999/24, Supplement No. 4)

(d) Human settlements

The Council will have before it the report of the *Commission on Human Settlements* on its seventeenth session (Nairobi, 5–14 May 1999).

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Human Settlements on its seventeenth session, including progress in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda (A/54/8, Supplement No. 8)

(e) Environment

The Council will review the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twentieth session (Nairobi, 1–5 February 1999). In doing so, the Council will consider only specific recommendations contained therein that require action by the Council and proposals on matters relating to the coordination aspect of the work of the Governing Council. The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme reports to the General Assembly through the Council (Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), sect. I, para. 3).

At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Council, a report on the implementation of the resolution entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon" (resolution 53/185).

Documentation

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twentieth session (A/54/25, Supplement No. 25)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolution 53/185 on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

(f) Women in development

In its resolution 40/204, the General Assembly requested that the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* be updated on a regular basis. In resolution 49/161, the Secretary-General was requested to examine the impact of current trends and policies on the overall economic and social situation of women. The *Survey* will be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session. The Council will have before it an executive summary of the *Survey*.

The Council will also have before it the relevant sections of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-third session.

Documentation

Executive summary of the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development*

Relevant sections of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-third session

(g) Transport of dangerous goods

The Council will consider the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods on its twentieth session (Geneva, 7–16 December 1998). The Committee was established in pursuance of Council resolution 645 G (XXIII). The Secretary-General reports biennially to the Council on the work of the Committee (Council resolution 1488 (XLVIII)).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods at its twentieth session

(h) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly proclaimed the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, beginning on 1 January 1990. The Assembly adopted the International Framework of Action for the Decade, in which, *inter alia*, the Secretary-General was requested to report biennially to the Assembly, through the Council, on the activities of the Decade (resolution 44/236, annex).

At its fifty-third session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to submit recommendations to it, through the Council at its substantive session of 1999, on how the United Nations system could deal with natural disaster reduction after the conclusion of the Decade in 1999 (resolution 53/185).

The Council will also have before it the final report of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Decade, as well as a compilation of views on the overall implementation of the Decade provided by Member States and by bodies of the United Nations system.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

Report of the Secretary-General containing recommendations on how the United Nations system will deal with the reduction of natural disasters after the conclusion of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

(i) Population and development

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission on Population and Development on the work of its thirty-second session (New York, 22–24 March 1999). The provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 1998/222.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-second session (E/1999/25, Supplement No. 5)

(j) International cooperation in tax matters

The Secretary-General reports to the Council on the progress of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters following each meeting of the Group of Experts (Council resolution 1980/13). The Council will consider the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the ninth meeting of the Group of Experts (New York, 3–7 May 1999) (decision 1998/218).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters at its ninth meeting

(k) Energy and natural resources for development

At its substantive session of 1998, the Economic and Social Council merged the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development and the Committee on Natural Resources and named the new committee the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development (resolution 1998/46, annex I).

At its organizational session for 1999, the Council decided that the Committee would hold its first session at Headquarters from 5 to 16 April 1999 (decision 1999/204).

Documentation

Report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development on its first session

14. Social and human rights questions

At its organizational session for 1999, the Council requested the functional commissions that had not yet done so to implement General Assembly resolution 50/227 with regard to the provision of summaries of their resolutions or decisions for action by and/or for the attention of the Council. It also welcomed recommendations 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of section 1, recommendation 1 of section 2, and the recommendations contained in sections 3 to 9 of the consolidated report on the outcomes of the functional commissions of the Council in 1998 (E/1999/3), decided to transmit to the appropriate functional commissions those recommendations for their implementation, and requested the commissions to report to it at its substantive session of 1999 on the follow-up actions taken (resolution 1999/1).

(a) Advancement of women

The Council will have before it the report of the *Commission on the Status of Women* on its forty-third session (New York, 1–19 March 1999). The provisional agenda for the forty-third session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 1998/224.

The Council will also have before it the report of the *Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women* on its nineteenth session. The Institute functions under the authority of a Board of Trustees, which reports annually to the Council.

At its substantive session of 1998, the Council requested the Director of the Institute, in cooperation with the Board of Trustees, to present a report to the Council at its next substantive session containing, *inter alia*, a *detailed analysis of the reasons for the financial and staffing situation of the Institute* (resolution 1998/48).

In its resolution 50/203, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report annually to the Commission on the Status of Women and to the Assembly, through the Council, on the measures taken and the progress achieved in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action. At its fifty-second session, the Assembly decided to convene, in the year 2000, a *high-level plenary review to appraise and assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Beijing Platform for Action* (resolution 52/100). At its fifty-third session, the Assembly decided that the special session of the General Assembly should be entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" and would take place from 5 to 9 June 2000. The Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session will report directly to the General Assembly (resolution 53/120).

At its fifty-second session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and relevant United Nations organizations, a report on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas and to submit it, through the Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session (resolution 52/93).

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex). The Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was established under article 17 of the Convention for the purpose of considering the progress made in the implementation of the Convention. Under article 21 of the Convention, the Committee shall report annually on its activities to the General Assembly through the Council and may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of reports and information received from the States parties to the Convention.

The Council will also have before it the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* (see item 13 (f)).

Documentation

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-third session (E/1999/27, Supplement No. 7)

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its nineteenth session

Report of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 52/93 on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (A/54/36 (Part I))

Executive summary of the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development*

(b) Social development

The Council will have before it the report of the *Commission for Social Development* on its thirty-seventh session (New York, 9–19 February 1999). The provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 1998/226.

At its fifty-second session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in consultation with Member States, to consider *effective ways and means for achieving the goal of education for all*, including the desirability and the feasibility of launching a United Nations decade to eradicate illiteracy, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Council (resolution 52/84).

Documentation

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-seventh session (E/1999/26, Supplement No. 6)

Report of the Secretary-General on effective ways and means for achieving the goal of education for all

(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice

The Council will have before it the report of the *Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice* on its eighth session (Vienna, 27 April–6 May 1999). The provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 1998/227.

At its fifty-second session, the General Assembly adopted the *Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice* (resolution 52/86, annex) and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Council, a report on the implementation of the resolution.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its eighth session (E/1999/30, Supplement No. 10)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 52/86

(d) Narcotic drugs

The Council will have before it the report of the *Commission on Narcotic Drugs* on its forty-second session (Vienna, 16–25 March 1999). The provisional agenda for the forty-second session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 1998/229.

Report of the *International Narcotics Control Board*. In accordance with article 15, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, article 18, paragraph 1, of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and article 23, paragraph 1, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the Board will report to the Council, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on its work for 1998.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-second session (E/1999/28, Supplement No. 8)

Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1998

(e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reports annually to the General Assembly through the Council, in conformity with paragraph 11 of the Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Assembly resolution 428 (V), annex).

At its fifty-first session, in 1971, the Council decided that the report of the High Commissioner should be transmitted to the General Assembly without debate, unless the Council decided otherwise, at the specific request of one or more of its members or of the High Commissioner, at the time of the adoption of its agenda (resolution 1623 (LI), sect. II).

At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the *situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa* to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, and to present an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999 (resolution 53/126).

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

(f) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The Council will consider the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (1993–2003), as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/91, paragraph 16. In that resolution, the Assembly proclaimed the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, beginning in 1993, and adopted the Programme of Action for the Decade contained in the annex to the resolution. The Assembly entrusted the Council and the Commission on Human Rights, in cooperation with the Secretary-General, with the responsibility for coordinating the programmes and evaluating the activities undertaken in connection with the Decade and requested the Secretary-General to submit each year to the Council a detailed report on all activities of United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies, analysing the information received on such activities to combat racism and racial discrimination.

At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to present, through the Economic and Social Council, before the end of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, a concrete proposal on the date and venue of the *World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance* (resolution 53/132, sect. II).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Relevant chapter of the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-fifth session, containing proposals on the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

(g) Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

At its forty-eighth session, the General Assembly proclaimed the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, commencing on 10 December 1994 (resolution 48/163).

At its fiftieth session, the Assembly adopted the programme of activities for the Decade as contained in the annex to resolution 50/157. It also decided that the programme of activities for the Decade might be reviewed and updated throughout the Decade and that, at the mid-point of the Decade, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly would review the results of the activities to identify obstacles to the achievement of the goals of the Decade (resolution 50/157).

No advance documentation requested.

(h) Human rights

The Council will have before it the report of the *Commission on Human Rights* on its fifty-fifth session (Geneva, 22 March–30 April 1999). The report of the Commission is expected to include its response to the following resolutions:

(i) General Assembly resolution 53/156, in which the Assembly decided to keep the *situation of human rights in Rwanda* under consideration at its fifty-fourth session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council;

(ii) General Assembly resolution 53/165, in which the Assembly decided to keep the *situation of human rights in Afghanistan* under consideration at its fifty-fourth session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

The Council will also have before it the general comments of the *Human Rights Committee*. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex) entered into force on 23 March 1976. The complete report of the Committee is submitted to the Assembly pursuant to Council decision 1985/105.

The Council will have before it the report of the *Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* on its eighteenth and nineteenth sessions (Geneva, 27 April–15 May 1998 and 16 November–4 December 1998). The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was entrusted by the Council, as from 1987, with overseeing the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Council resolution 1985/17). It will be recalled that the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex) entered into force on 3 January 1976. Under article 16 of the Covenant, States parties to the Covenant undertake to submit to the Secretary-General reports on the measures that they have adopted and on the progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized in the Covenant. The Secretary-General is required to transmit copies of the reports to the Council for its consideration.

The Council will also have before it the report of the *United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*. At its forty-eighth session, the General Assembly decided to create the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; it also decided, *inter alia*, that the High Commissioner would be the United Nations official with principal responsibility for United Nations human rights activities under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General. The Assembly requested the High Commissioner to report annually

on his/her activities, in accordance with his/her mandate, to the Commission on Human Rights and, through the Council, to the Assembly (resolution 48/141).

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-fourth session (E/1999/23)

Report of the Human Rights Committee

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its eighteenth and nineteenth sessions (E/1999/22)

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights